Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 245895

FOR USDEL WFC FOR MOREY AND KITCHEN

FOLLOWING REPEATS USUN NEW YORK 4791 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PARIS 07 NOVEMBER 1974. QUOTE:

UNCLAS USUN 4791

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, AORG

SUBJ: WOTH UNGA-2ND COMMITTEE, ITEM 60(A) DISASTER RELIEF

REF: (A) STATE 243601 (B) USUN 4700

- 1. SECOND COMMITTEE IN WEDNESDAY AM SESSION ADOPTED US PROPOSED RES ON STRENGTHENING UNDRO WITHOUT A VOTE. FINAL VERSION WAS AMENDED IN SECOND PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH BY DELETING "RECALLING FURTHER" AND INSERTING "ENDORSING". (UPPER VOLTA DEL NOT AGREEABLE TO ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION SUGGESTED REF (A).
- 2. IN ADDITION TO 25 CO-SPONSORS (26 WITH US) LISTED PARA 3 REF (B), UPPER VOLTA, ETHIOPIA, SENEGAL AND NIGER AGREED TO CO-SPONSOR, FOR TOTAL OF 30.
- 3. FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF RES FRENCH DEL INTERVENED WITH UNCLASSIFIED $\,$

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STATEMENT THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED SUFFICIENTLY ON THE

DRAFT; ALSO THAT IF FRANCE HAD BEEN CONSULTED IT WOULD HAVE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO OPERATIVE PARAS 2 AND 4 OF RES, WHICH WOULD HAVE IN JUDGEMENT FRENCH DEL GREATLY IMPROVED THE TEXT

4. FOR PARIS. IN EVENT FRENCH SOULD TAKE THIS MATTER UP WITH EMBASSY FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF RELEVANT EVENTS LEADING UP TO FRENCH STATEMENT IN SECOND COMMITTEE. (1) ON SEPTEMBER 23 THE SECRETARYIN HIS ADDRESS BEFORE THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCED THAT THE US. WOULD MAKE A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR "A SUBSTANTIAL STRENGTHENING OF THE WORLD'S CAPACITY TO DEAL WITH NATURAL DISASTER--ESPECIALLY THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS DISASTER RELIEF ORGANIZATION". (2) DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 21 A FIRST DRAFT OF A PROPOSED USG RESOLUTION ALONG WITH A DISCUSSION PAPER WAS CIRCULATED TO AS AS MANY DELEGATIONS AS COULD BE CONTACTED, INCLUDING THE FRENCH. IN FACT, TWO APPROACHES WERE MADE TO THE FRENCH, EACH WITH REQUESTS THAT SHOULD THE FRENCH BE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING RESOLUTION TO PLEASE CONTACT THE MISOFF CHARGED WITH THIS ITEM. AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THESE CONTACTS A NUMBER OF DELS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST TO DISCUSS FURTHER (E.G. SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS, DENMARK, UK, FRG) BUT THE FRENCH DID NOT DO SO. (3) ON OCTOBER 30 DEBATE ON DISASTER RELIEF BEGAN IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE, WITH THE US MAKING A STATEMENT THAT INCLUDED, INTER ALIA, AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE US WAS IN THE PROCESS OF CONSULTING WITH OTHER NATIONS ON A DRAFT PROPOSAL, AND THAT "WE ARE TRYING TO REACH AS MANY AS POSSIBLE, AND WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO GIVE COPIES TO ANY OTHERS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED." (4) ON THE BASIS OF INTEREST EXPRESSED BY DELE-GATIONS AS A CONSEQUENCE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT, US. STATEMENT IN SECOND COMMITTEE AND CONTACTS MADE IN DISTRIBUTING FIRST DRAFT OF RESOLUTION THE US. CONVNEED AN INFORMAL MEETING IN THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 30 AT USUN TO DISCUSS DRAFT RESOLUTION. BECAUSE FRANCE NEVER INDICATED ANY INTEREST IT WAS NOT INVITED TO MEETING; ALSO BECAUSE OUR AIM AT THIS TIME WAS TO DEVELOP SUPPORT ON A GEOGRAPHIC BASIS ALONG WITH AN APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF LDCS AND DONOR COUNTRIES (DONOR COUNTRIES AT MEETING WERE SWEDEN, CANADA, UK, NETHERLANDS) WHICH ADEQUATELY TAKEN CARE OF WITHOUT FRANCE. UNCLASSIFIED

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(5) REVISED DRAFT CIRCULATED INFORMALLY TO INTERESTED DELS ON OCTOBER 31. CANNOT BE RECALLED WHETHER FRANCE INCLUDED OR NOT. HOWEVER, ON NOV. 1 REVISED DRAFT PUBLISHED OFFICIALLY AS UN DOCUMENT WITH USUAL DISTRIBBUTION TO ALL DELS SAME DAY. (6) ON NOV 4 US. FORMALLY INTRODUCED REVISED DRAFT RES. AT REQUEST OF UPPER VOLTA AN INFORMAL MEETING, ANNOUNCED FROM THE CHAIR, WAS HELD FOR ALL DELS INTERESTED IN US. RES TO CONSIDER LANGUAGE CHANGES PROPOSED BY UPPER VOLTA.

ABOUT DOZEN DELS ATTENDED MEETING, INCLUDING FRANCE, BUT FRENCH DEL MADE NO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS OTHER THAN TO SAY FRANCE HAD SOME PROBLEMS. MEETING, WHICH WAS LARGELY DIALOG AMONG US., SWEDEN, UK, NETHERLANDS, AND UPPER VOLTA DISBURSED AFTER COMPROMISE REACHED ON UPPER VOLTA LANGUAGE. FRENCH DEL DID NOT PURSUE, AND SEEMED TO BE SATISFIED WITH NEW LANGUAGE. (7) PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF INFORMAL MEETING CHAIR ANNOUNCED THAT VOTE ON US RES WOULD BE DELAYED TWO DAYS. FRENCH MADE NO OVERTURES DURING THIS INTERVAL. (8) US RES, AS AMENDED, ADOPTED NOV. 6, FOLLOWED BY FRENCH INTERVENTION NOTED PARA 3. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, IT WORTH NOTING THAT GENERAL DEBATE ON DISASTER ITEM INCLUDED STATEMENTS BY 34 DELEGATIONS, WITH NO PARTICIPATION BY FRANCE. ALSO, ON TWO OCCASIONS IN OTHER FORA (ECLA MEETING AND ECOSOC MEETING) WHILE GA IN SESSION, FRENCH DEL ASKED FOR REACTION TO US PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN UNDRO, BOTH ELICITING RESPONSES THAT INDICATED ONLY THAT THE FRENCH HAD LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN UNDRO. FINALLY, ON AT LEAST THREE OCCASIONS A FRENCH NATIONAL ON UNDRO STAFF CONSULTED FRENCH DEL ON US PROPOSAL, EACH TIME REPORTING BACK TO MISOFF CHARGED WITH ITEM THAT "THE FRENCH SEEM TO BE TAKEN CARE OF". **SCALI**

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